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For Information Contact Public Affairs WYN HORNBUCKLE Telephone: (602) 514-7625

Cell: (602) 525-2681

ILLEGAL ALIEN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM.

TUCSON – Abraham Antonio De Los Santos-Reyes, 28, of Sinaloa, Mexico, was sentenced here today to ten months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Cindy K. Jorgenson. De Los Santos-Reyes had pleaded guilty on November 20, 2006 to the charge of Illegal Alien in Possession of a Firearm.

On the night of August 24, 2006, security guards discovered De Los Santos-Reyes walking around an apartment complex in Tucson, where he was not resident. After giving security guards consent to search his person, he was found to be in possession of an Accu-Tek, model AT380, .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol, along with a small bag of cocaine and a stolen credit card belonging to a resident of the complex whose apartment was later discovered ransacked. The police were called to the scene and it was determined that De Los Santos-Reyes was a Mexican citizen with no legal authority to be present in the United States, and therefore no legal authority to possess a firearm in the United States.

De Los Santos-Reyes's prosecution is part of the District of Arizona's Project Safe Neighborhoods, an illegal firearms enforcement program. The effectiveness of Project Safe Neighborhoods in Arizona is based on the ability of federal, state, and local agencies to cooperate in a unified offensive that is led by the U.S. Attorney. Through ongoing partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, like the one in this case, the U.S. Attorney is implementing a series of strategies that are contoured to fit the specific gun crime problems throughout Arizona.

The investigation in this case was jointly conducted by the Tucson Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-01657-TUC-CKJ

RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-035(De Los Santos-Reyes)